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<u>E UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

A.J.M. Garwood

Attorney Docket No.: GARW115949

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Application No.: 09/724,287

Filed:

November 28, 2000

Title:

AA

PRODUCTS, METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR FRESH MEAT

PROCESSING AND PACKAGING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

February 27, 2001

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 4, after "prior" please insert -Application No. PCT/US00/29038, filed

October 19, 2000, and a CIP of prior--.

Remarks

The above-identified application is amended to include a reference to prior Application No. PCT/US00/29038 which designates the United States, and is therefore entitled to claim priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. If the Examiner has any further questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the below date.

Date:

feb. 27, 2001

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